

Atka Health Clinic

Survey Questions Results

Total Number households - 30

Subdivision – 18

Village – 10

School - 2

General Questions

Name (optional): _____

Address (optional): _____

Age _____ Sex _____ No. of people in house 47 – 3 questionnaires had no response

Is your house in old Atka village or Atka Subdivision?

4 questionnaires were from Subdivision

3 questionnaires from village

No response – 13 questionnaires

How long is your family away from home? _____ What time of year? _____

Clinic Use Questions

How often do you or any other adult in your house go to the clinic?

6 once per week 2 2 times per year 4 Other _____

8 once per month 1 once per year When we need to

Daily

Every 2 weeks

3 or 4 times a year

How often does a child in your house go to the clinic?

2 once per week 2 2 times per year 2 Other When we need to

3 or 4 times a year

4 once per month 0 once per year 7 No Children

Why do you go to the clinic?

- Refills, check up

- Check up
- Refills, illness, checkups
- Medical, Rx refills
- For a checkup
- Refill. Checkup
- Check up
- Check up
- Refill, checkup
- Illness, check ups, refills
- To get refills
- For appointment or check up.
- For checkup or meds.
- To get health care?
- Illness, etc.
- For refill or illness
- Refills, check BP
- Pick up meds and get blood drawn
- Refill, check ups

Have you ever needed the clinic and it was not open? How often? What time of day?

- Yes, they don't be there when they say they are going to be there.
- I don't know.
- No
- No
- No
- Not really
- No
- Only on holidays
- Yes, day time when they don't show up
- Only on holidays
- Yes, once in a while – day time.
- Come to clinic on time & its not open, have to wait till they show up.
- Yes, on “apia” holidays, and one other time
- Yes, late in afternoons
- No
- No
- Only holidays

Clinic Location Questions

Is the present clinic location a problem? 2 Yes 18 No

If yes, what is the problem?

- Yes, because of winds
- Yes, it should be centralized closer to both towns

Where would you like to see a clinic located? Why do you like this location better than any other?

- Wherever the people say.
- Along the road somewhere.
- Where they say they're going to build it.
- Baseball diamond (*note – this is the 'quonset hut' site*)
- Between the old village and subdivision. I don't really know.
- Subdivision side would be good
- On top road between subdivision and old town.
- Location between two villages is fine
- Where they say they are going to build it.
- Where the merry go round is on the old village. In the winter snow builds up and people have less access if it was where the water plants is located.
- Middle of town
- In between the two villages
- A few times – early morning and once in the late afternoon.
- I would like to see it up near the tsunami shelter. Then if there were a tidal wave disaster we could still get medicines.
- It's ok there where they are going to build it.
- At the new place is ok
- Don't know.
- Where it is going to build it

Does the clinic location affect whether you will go to the clinic? (i.e., you feel you should go to the clinic, but don't because it is too far away)?

- Not really, but maybe in winter.
- Depending where it will be.
- Only in winter time.
- No
- No
- Too far
- No
- No
- No
- No, maybe only in winter time.
- Not know.
- Yes, during winter, can't get on old village side
- If the location was up by the shelter, it would be faster to get to.
- No
- It's ok.
- No because the health aides come to my house.
- No
- No

Do you think the clinic should share a building with another organization (like it is now) or have its own building? If so, why?

- No
- No because it should be private
- It's ok.
- City, IRA, Corporation

- Clinic should have its own building, this is for privacy for those that go there, and they need more space.
- Yes, it should be private
- N/A
- No
- Not really
- No because it should be private
- No I would feel more comfortable if the clinic was in it's own building. I would fee like I have no privacy.
- Don't like it. no private.
- No
- No
- I don't know if there is a problem with the way it is now, but if it's going to help with the cost I don't see a problem sharing with another organization.
- I don't care, as long as the clinic has plenty of space.
- No, because it should be private for the patient.
- No
- Yes it would probably reduce the overall cost of construction.
- Yes, it don't matter.

Service Questions

What available services at the clinic do you use most often?

- X-ray, dental, eye.
- X-ray
- X-ray
- Rx refill
- None
- X-ray, dental, eye
- Check up
- X-ray, dental
- X-ray, dental, eye
- Med. Refill, basic health care
- For CHAs
- For CHR
- Check up, illnesses
- X-ray, dentist
- Dental, x-ray
- No
- X-ray, dental, eye doctor

What additional services besides routine medical care are most needed at the clinic?

| | | | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|----------------------------|---|-------|-------------|
| 16 | emergency services | 9 | mental health counseling | 1 | Other | Med refills |
| 16 | dental services | 12 | substance abuse counseling | | | |

Have you ever needed treatment from the clinic that it wasn't able to provide? If so, where did you go?

- No
- No
- Yes, x-ray
- No
- No
- Yes, x-ray
- No
- No
- Yes, ex-ray, counseling
- X-ray services, dental
- Dental
- Needed x-rays so I went to Anchorage
- I need a certain medicine and had to wait for it to come to Atka.
- Yes, counselor
- No
- X-ray, eye doctor

Finance Question

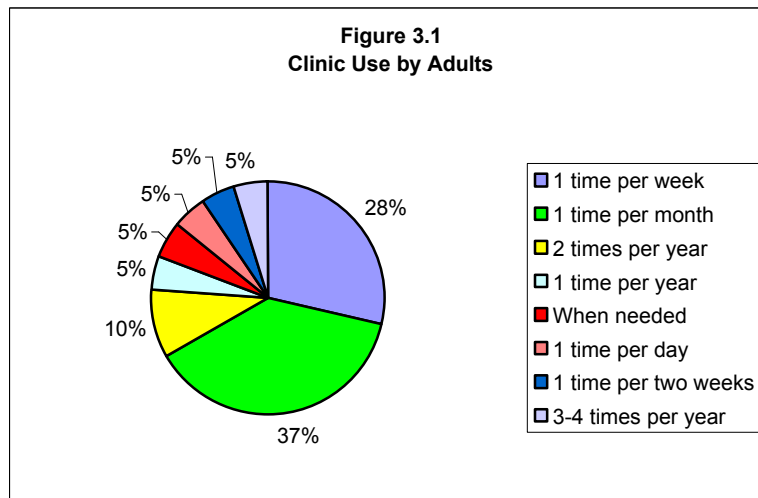
How are your medical expenses paid?

| | | | | | | |
|---|----------|----|-----------|---|-------|-------|
| 5 | Medicaid | 17 | IHS | 0 | Other | _____ |
| 5 | Medicare | 5 | Insurance | | | |

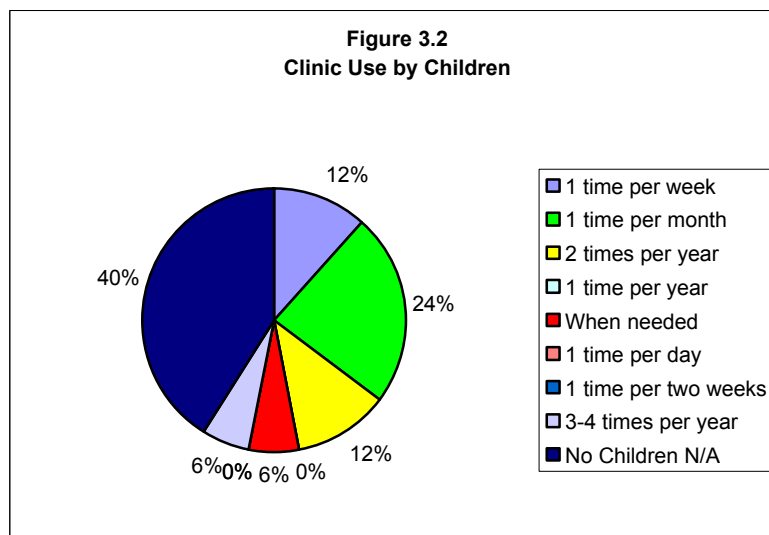
Do you have any suggestions or comments on how to improve health care services in Atka?

- No
- Better plane service for doctors and them.
- We need new clinic with electrical codes – it not in compliance with electrical.
- Need a bigger clinic.
- Better plane service
- The clinic is fine except for no space. The clinics needs the room that the CHR office uses when the dentist comes or the doctor. If that position was contributing to patient care it would be justifiable to have it there.
- I think that dentists and optometrists and dentists should come quarterly. It would be nice if APIA would provide the same quality services that villages in Bristol Bay get. Our health care providers are very good but it would be nice to get doctors, dentists, and eye doctors here more often. I think Anchorage needs to budget for this.
- Better plane services ERA if possible.
- Bigger clinic with lots of rooms.

Clinic use was broken into categories of how often both adults and children used the facility. The categories for use were: once per week, once per month, two times per year, once per year, when needed, once per day, once per two weeks, and 3-4 times per year.

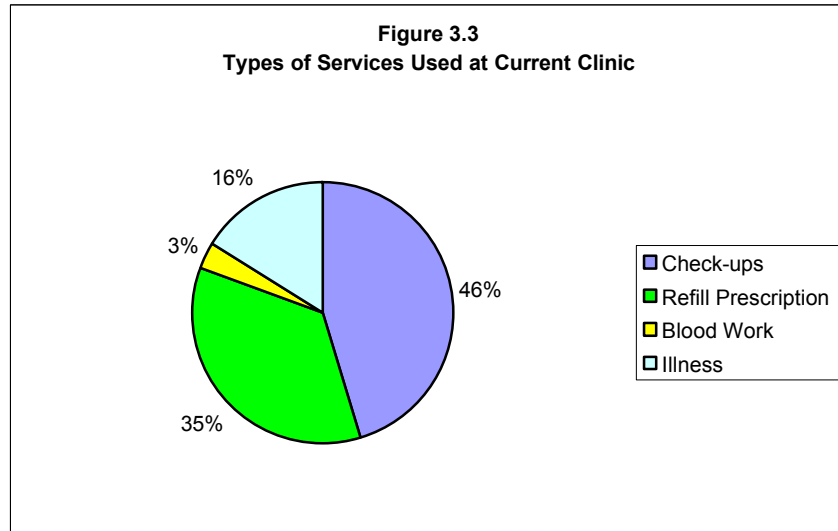


The greatest percentage (37%) of adults used the clinic once per month. However, 28% of the adults used the clinic one time per week. The rest of the categories had sporadic results of one to two responses each.



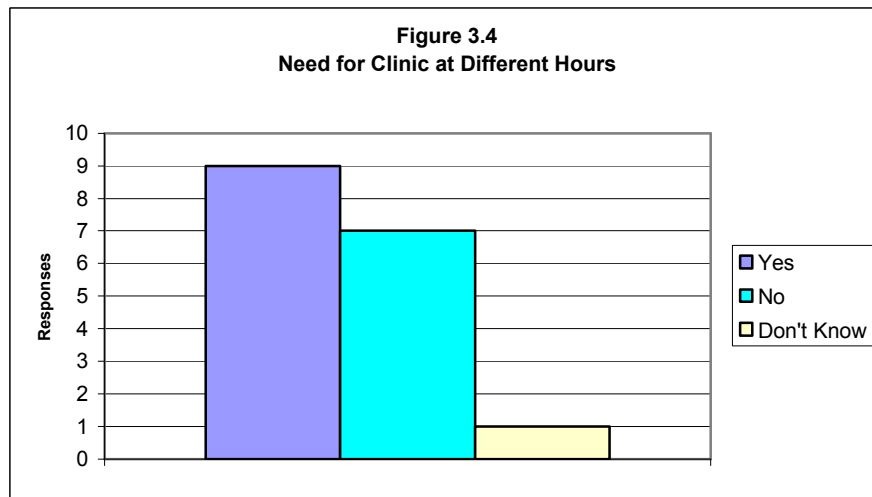
Most of the survey respondents (40%) did not have children. Of the respondents that do bring children to the clinic, 24% bring the children to the clinic one time per month. Both one time per week and two times per year had the second highest usage percentages with 12%. Generally, both adults and children use the facility on a monthly to weekly basis.

The respondents were asked which services they used at the clinic. The following pie chart shows the responses.



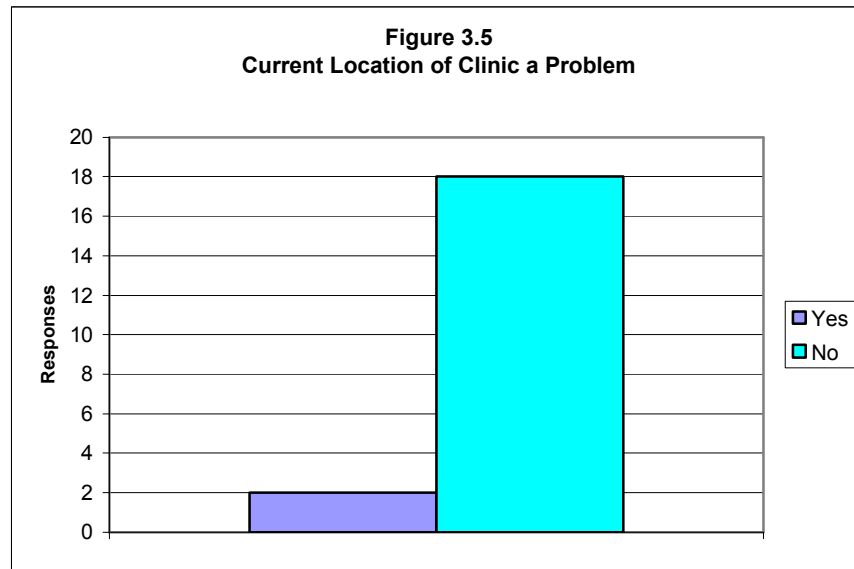
Nearly half of the respondents (46%) used the clinic for check-ups. Another large portion of respondents (35%) used the clinic to refill prescriptions. Some patients used the clinic for blood work and during times of illness.

The respondents were asked if they had ever needed the clinic when it was not open.



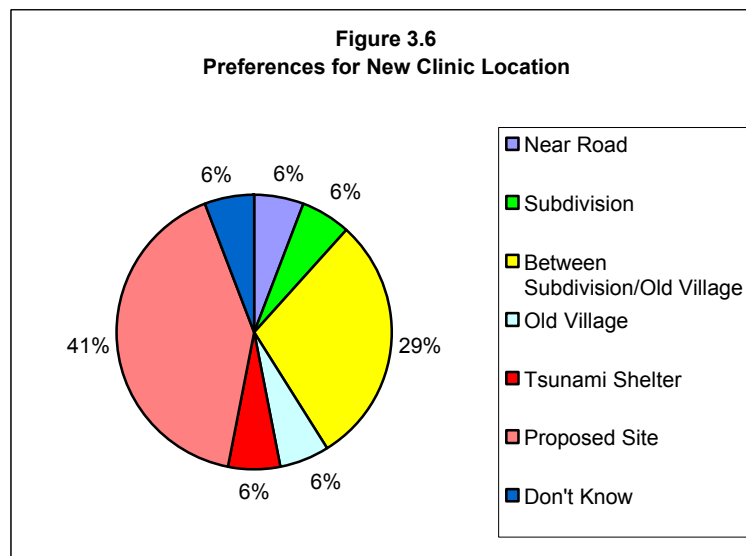
Slightly over half of the respondents (53%) answered affirmatively that there were occasions when they needed the clinic when it was not open, 41% answered that they did not have a need for different hours, and one respondent did not know. Of the respondents that did experience a time where the clinic was needed but not open most commented that this was during holiday times. Others mentioned that they had visited the clinic during operational hours, but it was for some reason closed at that time.

The next section of questions in the survey pertained to clinic location within the community. The respondents were asked if the current location of the clinic was a problem.



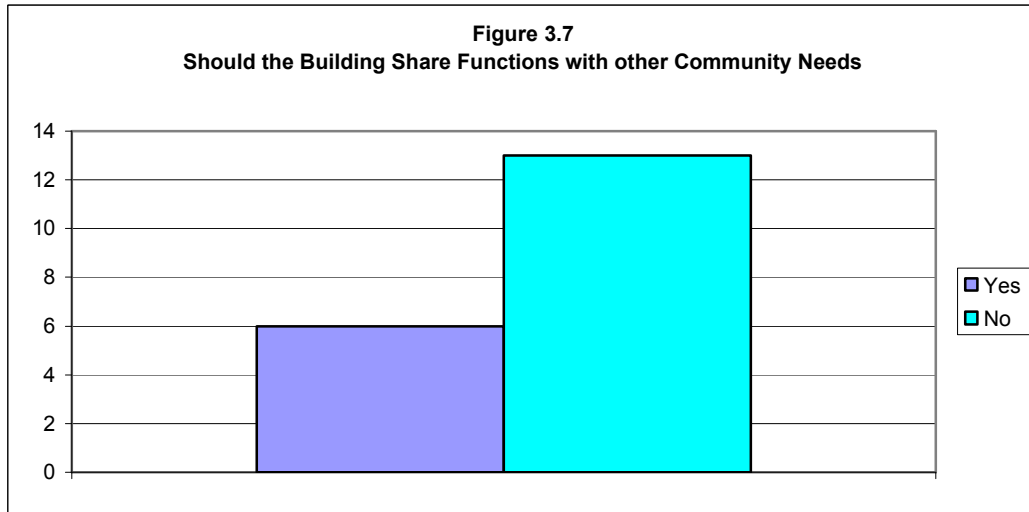
The majority of the respondents (90%) did not have a problem with the clinic location. Of the 2% that did express concerns, the respondents felt the clinic could have been protected from the wind better, and in a more centralized location between the two towns.

When asked where the respondents would like to see the new clinic location there was a variety of responses.



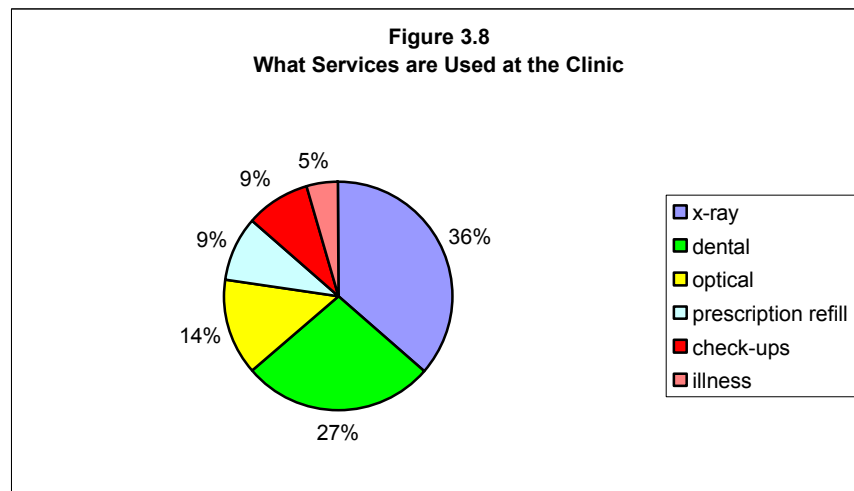
Many (41%) of the respondents were agreeable to placing the new clinic at the proposed location. Another large percentage (29%) would like to see the new facility between the subdivision and the old village. The proposed location would satisfy this request. Another valuable suggestion for location was by the tsunami shelter so that residents would be able to get medication and medical services during times of emergency weather. The proposed location is located at a higher elevation in the town so that flooding will not be a problem. The majority (65%) of respondents did not feel that location would affect usage. The respondents that answered that location would affect usage were concerned about access during wintertime.

Currently the clinic shares functions with the city by sharing space in the upstairs for offices. If a new clinic were built one question during the proposal and design phase would be if the new facility should again share services with another organization.



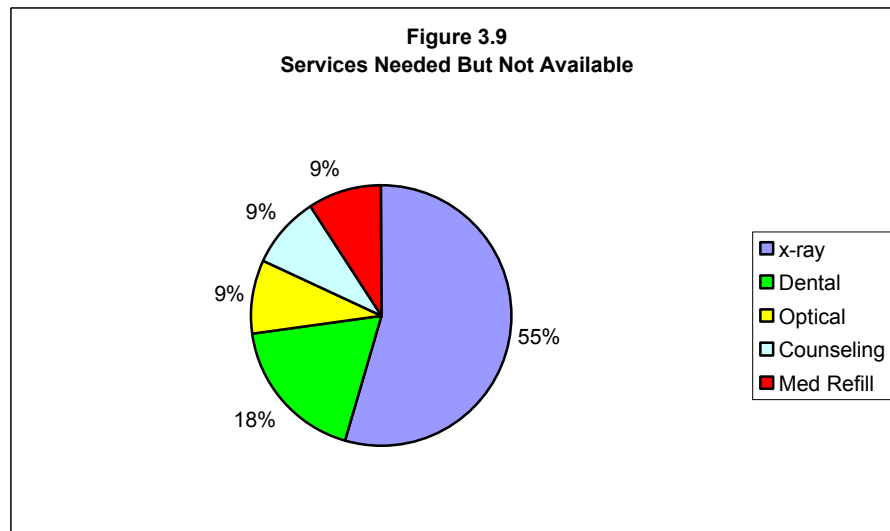
The majority of respondents (68%) did not want the new facility to share with another organization. Most participants who did not want to share facilities were concerned with privacy issues for the clinic. This is understandable considering that lack privacy and comfort for patients was considered a major deficiency in the current clinic. If privacy considerations are addressed during design, the new facility residents may be more agreeable for the clinic to share space with another organization. Thirty two percent of the respondents did not care if the facility was shared, especially if sharing reduced costs.

The next section of the survey pertained to service questions. The participants were asked what services they used most often at the clinic.



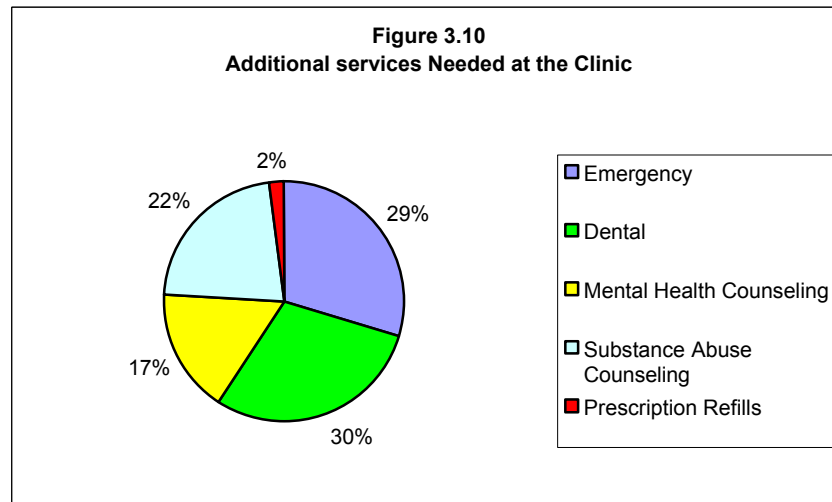
The most common services used were x-rays and dental. Optical, prescription refills, and check-ups were also popular responses.

When asked if there was ever a time where a service was needed, but not available at the clinic 56% of the participants answered affirmatively. The services that were needed, but not available are shown in Figure 3.9.



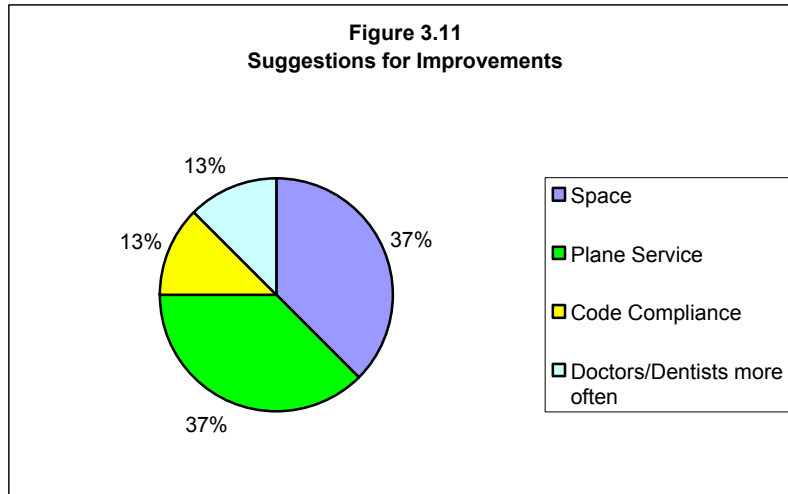
The majority of services that were needed, but not available were x-rays (55%). Dental, optical, counseling and prescription refills were also on the list of services not always available.

The participants were then asked what services were needed at the clinic in addition to routine medical care.



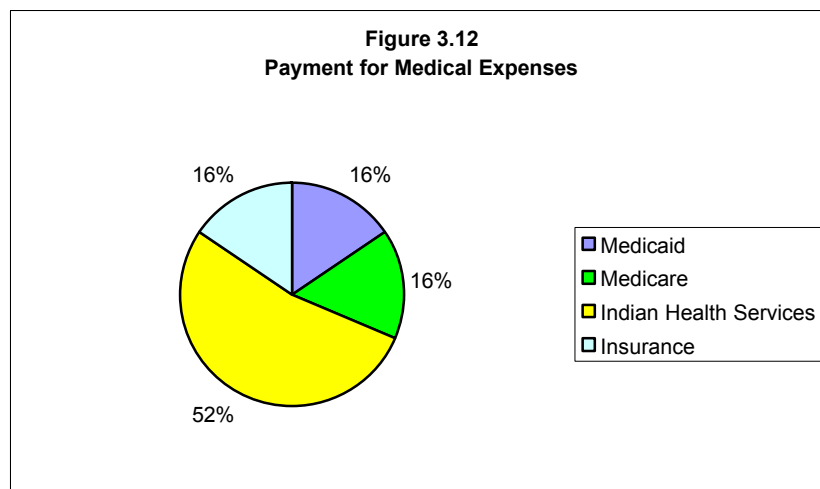
Popular requests for additional services included additional dental services (30%), emergency services (29%), substance abuse counseling (22%), and mental health counseling (17%). These are consistent with the prior question of services that were needed for the respondents, but not available at the Atka health clinic.

The survey participants were also asked how health care service in Atka could be improved.



The most popular responses (37%) were for increased space at the facility and better plane service to Atka for the itinerate doctors. Other respondents (13%) indicated that they would like the clinic to comply with current building codes, and for the itinerate doctors to come more frequently.

Finally, the last question asked was how medical expenses were paid.



The majority (52%) of clinic patients use Indian Health Services for health expenses. However, Medicaid, medicare, and private insurance claims also pay for approximately 28% of clinic patient expenses.

Overall the residents of Atka take full advantage of the services available from the clinic. Most likely this is the only healthcare available to the residents as travel expenses to outside clinics in Dutch Harbor or Anchorage are expensive. Many of the residents feel improvements could be made for the health clinic including additional space and increased availability and services.